<u>Paraprofessional</u>. Paraprofessional staff are identified by many titles such as, vocational technician, technical assistant, instructional aide, instructional technician, laboratory technician, support person, technical aide, teaching assistant, educational assistant. They may be assigned to work in many occupational programs/classes. Paraprofessional staff are the core staff supporting special populations students and account for the majority of the support staffing in larger career and technical education programs.

A career and technical education paraprofessional is a non-certified staff person. The paraprofessional should have a strong background in the career and technical education program area(s) to which assigned. Generally, these staff should have a minimum of two years of occupational experience or an associate's degree and one year of occupational experience in the occupational area to which they are assigned, or have work experience commensurate to these qualifications. They are assigned to work with teachers and students in the specific or a closely related occupational area based on their educational background and work experience.